

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 21064 231813Z
ACTION FAA-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 MCT-01
HA-05 SY-05 USSS-00 /044 W
-----004728 240208Z /72

R 231614Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9473
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 21064

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR, IT
SUBJECT: THREAT TO TWA AIRCRAFT AT ROME

REF: ROME 20606

1. TWA MANAGER (NOBLE) AND TWA SECURITY OFFICER (MICHELA)
TOLD EMBOFF ON DEC. 22. THAT GOI SECURITY AND AIRPORT AUTHORITIES
NOW SEEM PREPARED TO PROCEED TO TWA FOR AN INDEFINITE PERIOD
ESSENTIALLY WHAT TWA WANTS. (THIS IS ABOUT WHAT DI MUCCIO (MFA)
HAS BEEN SAYING.) EMBASSY, THEREFORE, NO LONGER PRESSING FOR
MEETING AS PROPOSED PARA 3 REFTTEL, AT LEAST UNTIL BECOMES CLEAR
THAT FIUMICINO AIRPORT AUTHORITIES FALLING SHORT OF TWA NEEDS.

2. ACCORDING TO MICHELA (EXIT TWO GATES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO
TWA FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD AND DEDICATED SECURE AREA, WITHIN
EXISTING "SANITIZED" TRANSIENT AREA, HAS BEEN CREATED BY
INSTALLATION AT CONSIDERABLE EXPENSE, OF GLASS WALL AND GATE
NEAR EASTERN END OF WING OF TERMINAL BUILDING WHERE TWA'S
GATES ARE LOCATED. METAL DETECTOR AND HAND BAGGAGE X-RAY MACHINE
ARE IN USE AT NEW ACCESS GATE AND ALL PASSENGERS ARE BEING BODY
SEARCHED AT THAT POINT AT PRESENT TIME. THUS, ALL TWA PASSENGERS
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MUST PASS THROUGH TWO SECURITY CHECK POINTS BEFORE BOARDING
AIRCRAFT. CURRENT EMERGENCY MEASURES EXPECTED TO END ON DEC. 30
AT WHICH TIME CERTAIN PASSENGERS WILL CONTINUE TO BE SEARCHED
ON SELECTIVE BASIS. THIS PROCEDURE CAN BE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE
INDEFINITELY. METAL DETECTOR, AND X-RAY MACHINE WILL ALSO BE
MADE AVAILABLE AT JETWAYS GATE WHEN TWA-B-747 BEING BOARDED.

3. SOCIETA AEROPORTI DI ROMA (SAR) ALSO HAS PROMISED TO ASSURE THAT SAME TICKET AND BAGGAGE CHECK-IN COUNTER PERSONNEL WILL BE ASSIGNED FOR TWA FLIGHTS AT LEAST 80 PERCENT OF THE TIME. THIS APPEARS TO MEAN THAT SECURITY PROFILE ANALYSIS CAN BE PERFORMED AND THAT CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHECK-IN COUNTER WILL BE ASSIGNED TO TWA.

4. FINALLY, TWA CONTINUING TO RECEIVE SARS X-RAY SERVICE FOR CHECKED BAGGAGE. AUTHORITIES APPEAR TO BE WILLING TO ALLOW EXPLOSIVE DETECTING DOG UNITS TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK AS LONG AS TWA DESIRES.

5. ACCORDING TO MICHELA, PAA IS NOT USING DEDICATED SECURE AREA BUT IT WOULD BE WELCOME TO DO SO IF IT WISHES. IT WOULD HAVE TO PAY ADDITIONAL FEES IF IT DECIDES TO DO SO. GARDNER

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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